

## LIFE IN BULGARIAN VILLAGE

Watering Places the Scenes of Social Gatherings, Where Young People Get Together for Courting.

As in the Bible times, all the water for the Bulgarian village must be drawn from one or two wells or springs, and these watering places or fountains are the scene of much sociability. Hither come all the youths and maidens of the village to loiter. There is coquetting and courting about the fountain and home gatherings in the evenings. Marriages spring from mutual attraction and choice, rather than the arrangement of families, as do the Armenian and Turkish alliances. There are husking bees and quilting bees where the young people meet, but the most popular form of social entertainment is the sedanka. Here assemble the young men and women of the village and adjoining farms, grouped about an open fire, singing solos and choruses. The Bulgarian folk dances are danced in a row or circle, the leader generally waving a bright handkerchief and turning and twisting about his line of followers, like a mild game of "snap the whip." It suggests health and abounding spirits and good-fellowship, without the sensuality that so often marks the oriental dance. Occasionally the sedanka ends in a dramatic fashion. Some brawny fellow who has been courting his Darka assiduously will seize her in his arms and carry her to his home. The next day this "marriage by capture" is given legal and religious sanction by the blessing of the orthodox priest.

## SLEEP IN QUILTS ON FLOOR

Japanese Have No Idea of the Modern Bedstead—Open Window at Night Not Thought Of.

A Japanese house hasn't a single window. And it's only the most stylish of them that have a pane of glass. A person who has a pane of glass somewhere in the house sets the social pace in that neighborhood. Instead of glass they have paper pasted on sliding frames, and through the paper the light filters. Naturally one wonders how they keep the rain out; this is little trouble, for outside the paper walls are a series of wooden doors which also slide back and forth.

When the time comes to retire, you look around for the bed, but there isn't one in sight. It is rolled up in a drawer, and the Japanese wouldn't know a bedstead from a quilting frame. Millions of people in Japan have grown to manhood, voted, paid taxes and gone to their reward without ever having clapped eyes on an American bedstead. To make the bed ready the servant opens the drawer and unrolls the quilts on the floor, putting a tomato-can-looking thing under one end for a pillow. Then she shuts all the paper windows and pulls to all the wooden slides so that not a breath of air can get in and the bed is ready. Money in the palm wouldn't persuade a Japanese to sleep with the window open.—Leslie's Weekly.

## Starling Becoming a Pest.

The English starling, introduced into this country some time ago, is increasing in numbers in a manner which puts the far-famed sparrow to the rear in the race, and it is claimed by some that the starling will soon be a greater pest than the sparrow. When the starling first came to us as a stranger he seemed to have some semblance of a song or a melody, but around the cities where he preferably makes his habitation this whistle is rarely heard, the ordinary note or conversation of the bird among his fellows being a sharp rasping sound, like the click of a fishing reel. In order to determine the status of the starling the government is conducting a number of experiments and examinations of the contents of the birds' stomachs to determine whether the bird is truly insectivorous or simply a scavenger of the English sparrow type. One thing contended for by some persons on behalf of the starling is that where he appears the sparrow is becoming a tree bird.

## Avoiding Disaster.

The parish priest had spoken seriously to Murphy several times about the wasteful habit of treating, and urged him when attending market to keep his change in his pocket until he reached home, and then hand it over to his wife.

Some weeks afterward his reverence, passing through the market, noticed Murphy and a few companions leaving a public house. "Now, I saw you in there a moment ago," began his reverence.

"Ach, sur! Oi cudn't hlep it, yer rivrinces!" said his parishioner. "Sure Oi jist foun' a hole in me trousers pocket, an was afereed Oi'd lose the change afore Oi'd git home!"

## Birds' Slaughter Blocks.

In country districts where shelled snails are abundant a thrilling thing it is to see robin, goldfinch or thrush capture a snail and hie them to a certain smooth-topped stone, there to soar high in the heavens and repeatedly drop the unhappy snail until finally the shell is triumphantly cracked open as you would a nut.

These slaughter blocks, anvils of stone are to be found almost anywhere that birds and snails are common. It is, to be sure, no easy matter, to catch the resourceful birds in the act; but even if your patience goes unrewarded the crushed and broken houses of shell scattered near such stones tell the tale.

## HER PART OF THE OUTPUT

Alf That Girl Really Had to Do to the Gloves Was to Put on the Finishing Touch.

"I've got a new place," said Gertie. "Where?" asked Sadie. "In the Right & Left glove factory."

"Isn't that nice?" said Sadie. "Make me a pair of gloves some time, will you?"

"Yes, maybe, after a while. I like the work awfully well."

"But isn't there a lot to it?"

"No, not much. It's real simple. And we girls have lots of fun."

"But how do you ever get those little pieces sewed in between the fingers?"

"Oh, you mean the—the—well, I've forgotten what they call them; but I don't do that."

"Oh, you just do the rest of it?"

"N-no, not exactly. You see, the cloth is woven in one department—"

"It's just like silk gloves, you know—and the gloves are cut out in another. Then they send them to another department, where they put in these little pieces you spoke of. And then someone else puts on the tips of the fingers, and someone else does fancy stitches on the back, and someone else closes them—sews them up, you know, and someone else puts the buttons on, and—and—Oh, there's lots more to it! And it's so interesting. And then they all have to be looked over, and the mean old thing that inspects is always sending them back to the girls to be done over."

"And what part do you do?" Sadie asked.

"Oh, me? When you buy a pair of gloves they are always stitched together in pairs. Well, that's what I do."—Wheeling Register.

## ESCORT COULDN'T SEE JOKE

Incident at Coney Island That Probably Taught Confetti Thrower a Lesson He Needed.

A large well-dressed man and a handsome woman were in the Mardi Gras crowd at Coney island, New York. They had been waiting some time for the parade and the woman began to yawn. Now yawning is a very unladylike performance in public, and rather a dangerous one in a Coney island crowd, for while the woman had her mouth wide open and was getting all the worth there is to be had out of a good healthy yawn a young man bent on mischief threw a handful of confetti right plump into the orifice. The woman coughed and spluttered, and the hoodlum shrieked with delight. Those about him thought it was a grand joke, too—all but the woman's escort. He reached out one powerful arm and grabbed the skylarking youth by the shoulder. Then he brought his fist down on the young man's straw hat, crushing it and driving his head through the crown and partly over his ears. Next he turned the young man around and kicked him with all the force and swiftness that outraged dignity and fierce anger together with great strength afforded. If that youth recovers from that kick and throws confetti again he will be careful in picking his target. And, maybe, the handsome woman if she yawns again in a hurry will not do so in such a mob as turns out to see a Coney island celebration.

## With the Essayists.

Of all the displays of art the essay is the most indefinable, the most subtle, because it has no scheme, no program.

It does not set out to narrate or to prove; it has no dramatic purpose, no imaginative theme; its essence is a sympathetic self-revelation, just as in talk a man may speak frankly of his own experiences and feelings, and yet avoid any suspicion of egotism, if his confidences are designed to illustrate the thoughts of others rather than to provide a contrast and a self-glorification.

The essayist gives rather than claims; he compares rather than parades. He is led by his interest in others to be interested in himself, and it is as a man rather than as an individual that he takes the stage.

He must be surprised at the discoveries he makes about himself, rather than complacent; he must condone his own discrepancies rather than exult in them.

## Trained Crabs Catch Rabbits.

Crabs are put to a curious use on certain parts of the Devonshire foreshore. They are used to catch rabbits. Having located a promising burrow, the snarer takes a crab and affixes a short length of lighted candle to the back of its shell. The behavior of a crab which finds itself in a narrow inclosure is well known. It begins to run. It therefore starts away up the burrow at top rate, and presently the rabbit is horrified at the sight of a joggling flame coming to his sanctuary. Off he goes for the other exit, only to find himself, when he emerges, in a trap.

## Two Babies.

Mrs. Newma—O, I wish you could see Mrs. Winkler's baby. It's perfectly lovely. Such a delicate little creature as it is! It's a perfect little cherub, with the loveliest eyes, the sweetest little mouth, the cunningest little nose, and eyes of heavenly blue. It looks as if it just dropped from heaven and every tiny feature had been fashioned by the angels.

Mr. Newma—Is it as nice as our

## GREAT THINKERS LIKED PIE

Noted Philosophers Celebrated for Their Fondness for Common-place Dessert.

Commenting on the inconsistencies of longevity, a writer recently cited the fact that, though a lifelong devotee to apple pie, Emerson lived to be over seventy-eight years old. That, however, is not the important fact. Many persons have lived to even a greater age. The distinctive feature of Emerson's pie-eating career is the wholesome, cheerful and thought-compelling system of philosophy which it brought forth.

To demonstrate that apple pie had much to do with Emersonian optimism is no task at all.

Thomas Carlyle, whose disciple and friend Emerson was, never ate pie, and although as great a lover of mankind as was the sage of Concord, Carlyle was a victim all his life of melancholia and dyspepsia and hard words. By intellectual descent and association Carlyle was a German, his thought being fed by Goethe, Schiller and others of that great group. But he adhered to the Scottish diet, which does not harmonize with Teutonic philosophy, and so he became physically and mentally dyspeptic. Pie might have saved him had he taken it in time.

Further to emphasize the point that pie, or apple pie, at any rate, is the optimistic factor of philosophy, it is necessary to cite the fact that Nietzsche, who, in his unspoiled years, was a devout and cheerful disciple of Emerson, became the materialistic "superman" of Nietzsche's later pieless years.

All budding philosophers who read these solemn words should be warned in time.

## HOW DOGS GOT THEIR NAMES

Substantial Reasons in All Cases for Dividing the Canine Species into Breeds Well Known.

With dog shows everywhere to the left of us and to the right, at national shows and the side shows, at outdoor fetes, many women will be glad to learn the origin of several popular breeds of the canine family.

It is probable that few lovers of the most popular dog of today—the bulldog—know whence he obtained his name. He is called a "bull" for the reason that formerly his services were employed in the driving of cattle. The dog was trained to meet the rushes of the bull by the simple expedient of seizing its charge by the most sensitive part, the nose.

The spaniel, formerly one of the most popular species of dogs, gets its name from Spain, from which country the first breeds were sent to England, where for a long time they were called "Spanish dogs."

Some have thought that the fox terrier derived his name from the fox, by reason of his pointed fox-like muzzle, but as a matter of fact the dog was not so named on account of any fancied resemblance to Reynard. On the contrary the fox terrier is so named because in the days when he was much larger in size and of greater strength than now, he was employed by English sportsmen to draw and kill the fox, being sent down into Reynard's burrow for that purpose.

## "Ma's" Good Example.

We visited at the home of a farmer friend last summer, says Farm Life. It was a rambling house, but every window was either closed or screened. Every door, likewise, was protected against the entrance of insects. There was one lonesome fly in the dining room, and the housewife was after him with a swatter. The children laughed, and the farmer looked at her with an indulgent smile.

"Ma won't rest till she gets him," said one of the girls, and her prophecy was a good one. Ma finally landed on Mr. Fly with her weapon. Then she picked up his lifeless body and carried him to the stove and cremated him.

How much more comfortable that family is than in those occasional country homes where they still shoo the flies away from the dinner table with a sassafras bush!

## Sing "Aloha" to Pacific Mail.

The Pacific liner Manchuria sailed for San Francisco festooned with wreaths bearing the legend, "Aloha Pacific Mail."

All Honolulu assembled to see the departure of the last Pacific mail vessel. On her arrival at San Francisco the Manchuria will be turned over to the International Mercantile Marine, which has already taken possession of the other five steamships which, with the Persia, sold to the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, constituted the Pacific Mail company's transpacific fleet—Honolulu Dispatch Portland Oregonian.

## Seems to Disprove Old Belief.

In one of the ancient chimney pieces in Cawdor castle, Scotland, there is a rude carving in stone of a fox smoking a tobacco pipe, with the date 1510. As it is generally believed that tobacco was first introduced into the mother country by Sir Walter Raleigh, about the year 1555, it is singular to find the common short tobacco pipes thus represented on a stone bearing date so much earlier.

There can be no mistake as to the date or the nature of the representation. The fox holds the fragrant tube in his mouth exactly as it is held by its human admirers, and is such as may be seen every day with those who patronize the cutty pipe.

## ORIGIN OF FAMILIAR SAYINGS

Phrases That Have Become Household Words Have Been Traced to Their Place of Birth.

"Kicking the bucket" is an irreverent way of expressing a person's death. The expression originated at the time when a man named Balsoever tried to commit suicide by hanging himself from a beam. He stood on a high bucket which he kicked away from him when he had adjusted the rope. A neighbor rescued him and in his disappointment he said: "What's the matter? I thought I kicked the bucket."

The origin of "O. K." is ascribed to President Andrew Jackson, who was noted for his bad spelling. He indorsed his papers "O. K.," thinking these were the proper initials for "all correct."

In "that's the ticket," ticket is corrupted from the French word etiquette, meaning that which is in good form or right.

"He's a brick" is a complimentary expression, but few know why. When Lycurgus was king of Sparta, over two thousand years ago, an eastern ambassador visited him and was astonished to find no walls around the city. When he questioned Lycurgus about this, the latter took him out to a plain where the Spartan army stood in order of battle. "There," said Lycurgus, "are the walls of Sparta, and every man a brick."

The ceiling of the old Drury Lane theater of London was painted to represent Olympus, with gods sitting among the clouds. The upper gallery came so close to the roof that the people who sat there were spoken of as sitting among the gods. Later the occupants themselves were called the "gallery gods."

## APPEAL THAT GOT RESULTS

Humorously Written "Dun" Had the Effect of Bringing Check to Settle Long-Standing Debt.

A well-known business man in Lawrence, Mass., once had a customer who contracted a debt that ran along unpaid for a year or more, and even several letters failed to bring about a settlement.

One day, while glancing over the religious notices in a local paper, the business man saw something that gave him a new idea. He went to his desk and wrote the following note to the debtor:

"My Dear Sir: I see in the local press that you are to deliver an address on Friday evening before the Y. M. C. A. on 'The Sinner's Balanced Account.' I inclose yours, as yet unbalanced, and trust that I may have the pleasure of attending your lecture."

A check came by the next mail.—Youth's Companion.

## Redwood Thousands of Centuries Old.

While one of the professors of the University of California was studying rock formations about twenty miles from San Francisco he discovered a quantity of California redwood splinters which had undergone no change in texture. They were neither petrified nor decayed.

The splinters could be shaved and cut with a knife and retained their distinctive markings of redwood.

The strata in which these were found embedded in the sandy base of the rock showed they had at one time been sunk under the sea and at a later date had been raised and tilted over, so that the position of the trees was horizontal instead of vertical.

It is estimated the age of these trees is in the millions of years. The discovery was made at Mussel Rock, Cal.

## To Each His Place.

Men have died of homesickness for the narrow fields and elm-shaded hollows in the hills of old New England in the same spirit that sends others toiling painfully back to the brown sand dunes about San Francisco bay.

Some have lost their hearts to the deep pine woods of the North and others to the stately moss-hung live oaks that line the shell road to Mobile. Some would come to the city of their souls through the low, warm mists that overhang Chesapeake bay, and others prefer to see the lights of home shining clear in a rise of the great plains 30 miles away as the crow flies. The truest thing Kipling ever said is that "God gave all men all earth to love, but, since their hearts are small, ordained for each one place should prove beloved over all." That place is home, and they have lived up to it.—Collier's Weekly.

## Life on Falkland Islands.

Whatever other attractions exist in the Falkland islands, two great drawbacks are continually met with. The climate is never really warm, and fires have to be kept up all the year round. Servants are procured with difficulty. Most people import them from England; but as English girls are frequently snapped up and married almost as soon as they land, they have to sign an agreement to remain in service three years. If they break it in order to marry, the husband has to pay the passage out from England of another servant to fill the place left vacant by his wife.

## POLICE TO PATROL DEPTHS

New York Wants a Detachment of Its Cops Who Can Use Diving Helmets.

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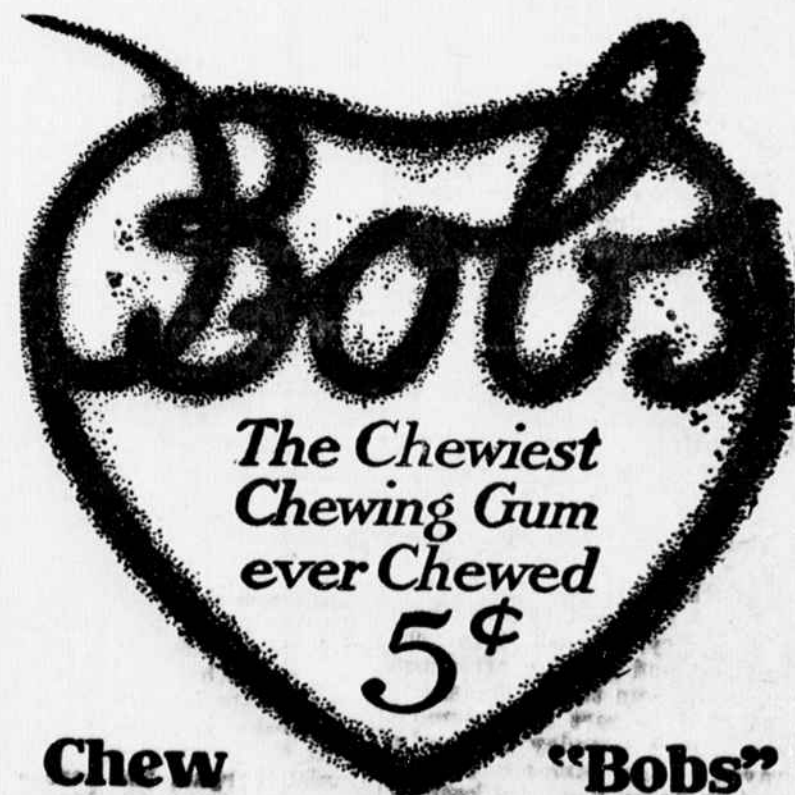
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